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**IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES**

**MAY 27** (legislative day, **MAY 2**), 1955

Mr. ELLENDER (by request) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry

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**A BILL**

To authorize the transfer to the Department of Agriculture, for agricultural purposes, of certain real property in Saint Croix, Virgin Islands.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3       That the Virgin Islands Corporation is authorized and di-  
4       rected to transfer and convey to the United States of America  
5       upon request of the Secretary of Agriculture, without cost,  
6       the real property comprising sixty acres more or less, to-  
7       gether with the buildings and improvements thereon, occu-  
8       pied and in use by the Department of Agriculture, which  
9       property is adjacent to the southwest corner of the intersec-  
10      tion of Centerline Road and Airport Road on the Island

1 of St. Croix, Virgin Islands: *Provided*, Upon the transfer  
2 and conveyance of such property by the Virgin Islands  
3 Corporation to the United States, the interest-bearing invest-  
4 ment of the United States in the Corporation shall be reduced  
5 by the net book value of such property.

To authorize the transfer to the Department of  
Agriculture, for agricultural purposes, of  
certain real property in Saint Croix, Virgin  
Islands.

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By MR. ELLENDER

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MAY 27 (legislative day, MAY 2), 1955

Read twice and referred to the Committee on  
Agriculture and Forestry





84<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 6692

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 7, 1955

Mr. O'BRIEN of New York introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs

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## A BILL

To authorize the transfer to the Department of Agriculture, for agricultural purposes, of certain real property in Saint Croix, Virgin Islands.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3       That the Virgin Islands Corporation is authorized and di-  
4       rected to transfer and convey to the United States of America  
5       upon request of the Secretary of Agriculture, without cost,  
6       the real property comprising sixty acres more or less, to-  
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9       property is adjacent to the southwest corner of the inter-  
10      section of Centerline Road and Airport Road on the island

1 of Saint Croix, Virgin Islands: *Provided*, Upon the transfer  
2 and conveyance of such property by the Virgin Islands  
3 Corporation to the United States, the interest bearing in-  
4 vestment of the United States in the Corporation shall be  
5 reduced by the net book value of such property.

To authorize the transfer to the Department of Agriculture, for agricultural purposes, of certain real property in Saint Croix, Virgin Islands.

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By Mr. O'BRIEN of New York

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JUNE 7, 1955

Referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs





June 15, 1955

tariff reductions reducing tariff rates existing on January 1, 1955, in stages of not more than 5% in each of 3 years, or negotiate reduction in those rates which are higher than 50 percent of the value of an import to a rate equivalent to 50 percent. Amends the escape clause to modify the standards for determining injury to a domestic industry. Grants the President additional authority to control imports of any article which is found to be entering in such quantities as to impair the national security. Requires the President and the Tariff Commission to report annually to the Congress on the operation of the trade agreements program.

8. CROP INSURANCE. Received from the Comptroller General the audit report on the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1954 (p. 6994). The House received this report on June 14 (H. Doc 180) (p. 6990).

9. FORESTRY. The Interior and Insular Affairs Committee reported with amendments S. 1713, to amend the mining laws to provide for multiple use of the surface of the same tracts of the public lands (S. Rept. 554) (p. 6996).

10. PROPERTY; ~~EXTENSION WORK, LOW-INCOME FARMERS~~. The Agriculture and Forestry Committee reported without amendment S. 2097, to transfer land and buildings now used for research under cooperative agreement with the Virgin Islands Corporation (S. Rept. 557); and S. 2098, to authorize additional appropriation for cooperative extension work among low-income farmers (S. Rept. 558) (p. 6996).

11. LAND TRANSFER. The Agriculture and Forestry Committee reported without amendment H. R. 2973, to release reversionary rights to a former FHA tract in Macon County, Ga., to the Ga. Board of Education (S. Rept. 559) (p. 6996).

12. APPLE PRICES. The Agriculture and Forestry Committee reported without amendment H. R. 5188, to prohibit USDA prediction of apple prices (S. Rept. 560) (p. 6996).

13. FARM LOANS; RECLAMATION. The Agriculture and Forestry Committee reported with amendments S. 1472, to extend financial assistance to desert-land entrymen to the same extent as such assistance is available to homestead entrymen (S. Rept. 561) (p. 6996).

14. COMMERCE AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATION BILL, 1956. Continued debate on this bill, H. R. 6367 (pp. 7006, 7060-70). Agreed to the committee amendment increasing forest highways (p. 7069).

15. MARKETING; EXPERIMENT STATIONS; GRAIN STANDARDS. The Agriculture and Forestry Committee reported with amendments S. 1757, to provide penalties for false grade marking (S. Rept. 562); S. 1759, to consolidate experiment station authorizations (S. Rept. 563); and S. 1400, to protect the integrity of grade certificates under the U. S. Grain Standards Act (S. Rept. 564) (p. 6996).

16. EMERGENCY LOANS. The Agriculture and Forestry Committee ordered reported with amendment S. 1582, to extend the period for the making of emergency loans for agricultural purposes (D. 556).

17. WATER CONSERVATION. Sen. Carlson inserted a resolution of the Coffeyville, Kans. Chamber of Commerce urging consideration of flood control and water pollution measures on the Big Hill Creek (p. 6995).

18. WHEAT. Sen. Neuberger urged that the "two-price" wheat plan be considered and inserted a newspaper article commenting on the recently announced wheat price supports (pp. 7003-4).

Sen. Langer inserted a portion of his remarks published by the Wall Street Journal citing the distressed position of wheat farmers who are unable to find proper storage facilities for their wheat crops (p. 7004).

19. INSECTS. Sen. Langer inserted a report from the North Dakota Insect and Pest Reporting Service listing and describing all the insects which are now prevalent throughout the Northwest (pp. 7004-5).

20. GRAIN BINS. Sen. Humphrey was again very critical of the Agriculture Department's alleged "bungling" of storage bin construction (pp. 7005-6).

#### BILLS INTRODUCED

21. RUBBER. S. 2242, by Sen. Kilgore, to amend the Rubber Producing Facilities Disposal Act of 1953, so as to permit the disposal thereunder of the Government-owned rubber-producing facility at Institute, W. Va.; to Banking and Currency Committee (p. 6997).

22. LANDS. S. 2246, by Sen. Mundt, to authorize the sale of certain lands to the city of Wall, S. Dak.; to Agriculture and Forestry Committee (p. 6997).

23. SURPLUS PROPERTY. S. 2247, by Sen. Saltonstall, relating to the authority of the Administrator of General Services with respect to the utilization and disposal of excess and surplus Government property under the control of executive agencies; to Government Operations Committee (p. 6997).

24. FARM LABOR. S. 2248, by Sen. Saltonstall, to amend the Refugee Relief Act, as amended, to provide a certain number of visas for persons of ethnic Armenian origin; to Judiciary Committee (p. 6997).

25. RECLAMATION. S. 2251, by Sen. Welker, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct, operate, and maintain in the upper Snake River Valley, Idaho and Wyo., the Narrows Federal reclamation project and a reregulating reservoir below the Palisades Dam and Reservoir; to Interior and Insular Affairs Committee (p. 6997).

26. FOREIGN TRADE. S. 2253, by Sen. Ellender (for himself and others), to re-emphasize trade development as the primary purpose of title I of the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954; to Agriculture and Forestry Committee (p. 6997).

27. FARM PROGRAM. H. R. 6835, by Rep. Gathings, "to amend the Agricultural Act of 1954;" to Agriculture Committee (p. 7130).  
H. R. 6836, by Rep. Gathings, "to amend the Agricultural Act of 1938, as amended;" to Agriculture Committee (p. 7130).  
H. R. 6845, by Rep. Watts, "to further amend the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938;" to Agriculture Committee (p. 7130).

28. WILDLIFE. H. R. 6844, by Rep. Young, to provide that accumulated receipts in the Federal aid to wildlife restoration fund shall be appropriated; to amend the Wildlife Restoration Act (16 U. S. C., secs. 669-669i), defining "wildlife restoration project;" to Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee (p. 7130).

# Calendar No. 562

84TH CONGRESS  
1st Session }

SENATE

{ REPORT  
No. 557

## TRANSFER OF REAL PROPERTY IN ST. CROIX, V. I.

JUNE 15 (legislative day, JUNE 14), 1955.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. ELLENDER, from the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, submitted the following

### R E P O R T

[To accompany S. 2097]

The Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, to whom was referred the bill (S. 2097) to authorize the transfer to the Department of Agriculture, for agricultural purposes, of certain real property in St. Croix, V. I., having considered the same, report thereon with a recommendation that it do pass without amendment.

S. 2097 would direct the transfer of certain real property in St. Croix, V. I., now owned by the Virgin Islands Corporation, to the Department of Agriculture. The Department is presently using this property under a cooperative agreement for the research and extension program recently established for the Virgin Islands. It is desirable that the Department have permanent possession of these facilities to complete its program which will benefit the Virgin Island's economy.

A letter from the Department of Agriculture requesting enactment of S. 2097 is attached as a part of this report.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,  
Washington, D. C., May 24, 1955.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE,  
United States Senate.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: Transmitted herewith for the consideration of the Congress is a proposed bill to authorize the transfer to the Department of Agriculture, for agricultural purposes, of certain real property in St. Croix, V. I. The purpose of the proposed bill is to transfer without cost, land and buildings now used by the Virgin Islands agricultural program, under cooperative agreement with the Virgin Islands Corporation, to the Department of Agriculture, in order to develop a more effective research and extension program for the Virgin Islands.

At the time the new Virgin Islands agricultural program was initiated, in accordance with Public Law 228, 82d Congress, the Department secured approximately 60 acres of land and several buildings, under a cooperative agreement with the Virgin Islands Corporation. The cooperative agreement under which the property is now made available to the Department expires August 20, 1957.

This land is almost in the center of the agricultural area of St. Croix. It is located at the intersection of the main two roads on the island and thus is readily accessible to the farm and rural people the program is designed to serve. The 60 acres consist roughly of 40 acres of good level farmland which is very adaptable to plot work or to demonstration-type experiments. The remaining 20 acres is rough and not generally usable for agricultural purposes, except for certain types of plant introductions which require shaded or wooded areas, but provides a good site for necessary buildings and facilities.

The facilities are adequate for carrying out the current research and extension program for the islands. They consist of an old house, which was converted into laboratory and office space, and a stone garage.

If the Government is to continue a research and extension program in the Virgin Islands, it is essential that the Department acquire a permanent location. For the foregoing reasons, the Department is interested in this particular area.

One of the objectives of the program is to introduce better varieties of crop plants to improve production in the islands. There would be little purpose in establishing groves of mangoes, limes, and similar trees unless the Department would have assurance that it can control the land on which they are planted long enough to secure results from the research undertaken.

Also, there are certain facilities which must be added. To assure adequate water, a well should be dug, a certain amount of additional road is necessary, protective fencing is essential and certain changes in the structures would be desirable if the Department is to develop first-class laboratory facilities. The Department is hesitant to undertake this type of operation unless it has assurance that it can continue to use the property.

It is highly desirable that title to this 60 acres of land and its facilities be acquired by the Department of Agriculture from the Virgin Islands Corporation in order that the Department will be in a position to develop the long-range aspects of the Virgin Islands research and extension program.

A similar letter is being sent to the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Bureau of the Budget advises that there is no objection to the transmission of the proposed legislation to the Congress for its consideration.

Sincerely yours,

E. T. BENSON, *Secretary.*



84<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

Calendar No. 562

# S. 2097

[Report No. 557]

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 27 (legislative day, MAY 2), 1955

Mr. ELLENDER (by request) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry

JUNE 15 (legislative day, JUNE 14), 1955

Reported by Mr. ELLENDER, without amendment

---

## A BILL

To authorize the transfer to the Department of Agriculture, for agricultural purposes, of certain real property in Saint Croix, Virgin Islands.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3       *That the Virgin Islands Corporation is authorized and di-*  
4       *rected to transfer and convey to the United States of America*  
5       *upon request of the Secretary of Agriculture, without cost,*  
6       *the real property comprising sixty acres more or less, to-*  
7       *gether with the buildings and improvements thereon, occu-*  
8       *pied and in use by the Department of Agriculture, which*  
9       *property is adjacent to the southwest corner of the intersec-*  
10      *tion of Centerline Road and Airport Road on the Island*

[Report No. 557]

1 of St. Croix, Virgin Islands: *Provided*, Upon the transfer  
2 and conveyance of such property by the Virgin Islands  
3 Corporation to the United States, the interest-bearing invest-  
4 ment of the United States in the Corporation shall be reduced  
5 by the net book value of such property.

To authorize the transfer to the Department of  
Agriculture, for agricultural purposes, of  
certain real property in Saint Croix, Virgin  
Islands.

By Mr. ELLENDER

MAY 27 (legislative day, May 2), 1955  
Read twice and referred to the Committee on  
Agriculture and Forestry  
JUNE 15 (legislative day, JUNE 14), 1955  
Reported without amendment





# Digest of CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS

## OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
(For Department Staff Only)

Issued June 20, 1955  
For actions of June 17, 1955.  
84th-1st - No. 102

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HIGHLIGHTS: Senate passed bill to prohibit USDA prediction of apple prices. Ready for President. Senate passed bills to: transfer to USDA certain real property in Virgin Islands; authorize additional extension work for low-income farmers; provide penalties for false grade marking; consolidate experiment station authorizations; protect grain standards. Senate debated defense appropriation bill. Senate com-

(Cont'd. on p. 4)

### SENATE

1. ~~APPLE PRICES.~~ Passed without amendment H. R. 5188, to prohibit this Department from predicting apple prices in any official publication (pp. 7342-3). This bill will now be sent to the President.
2. ~~PROPERTY.~~ Passed without amendment S. 2097, to transfer land and buildings now used for research under cooperative agreement with the Virgin Islands Corporation (p. 7341).
3. ~~EXTENSION WORK.~~ Passed without amendment S. 2098, to authorize additional appropriations for cooperative extension work among low-income farmers (p. 7341).
4. ~~EMERGENCY LOANS.~~ The Senate Agriculture and Forestry Committee reported with amendment S. 1582, to extend the period for making emergency loans for agricultural purposes (S. Rept. 574) (p. 7283).
5. ~~MARKETING.~~ Passed as reported S. 1757, to provide penalties for false grade marking (p. 7343). The bill would strengthen provisions to prevent deception in connection with inspection of agricultural commodities and would increase the maximum fine from \$500 to \$1,000.
6. ~~EXPERIMENT STATIONS.~~ Passed as reported S. 1759, to consolidate experiment station authorizations (pp. 7343-5). The bill would prevent allotments from shifting with shifts in relative rural and farm population; freeze the amount earmarked by section 9 of the Bankhead-Jones Act for marketing research at the amount so earmarked in 1955; and repeal a provision exempting the Georgia

experiment station from the Secretary's authority to withhold funds from stations not complying with the act.

7. GRAIN STANDARDS. Passed as reported S. 1400, to protect the integrity of grade certificates under the U. S. Grain Standards Act (p. 7345).

8. WATER COMPACT. Passed without amendment H. R. 208, providing for a water compact between Arkansas and Oklahoma (p. 7333). This bill will now be sent to the President.

9. ROADS. Passed as reported H. R. 5923, to authorize appropriations for the completion of the Inter-American Highway (p. 7334).

10. FARM LOANS; RECLAMATION. Passed as reported S. 1472, to extend financial assistance to desert-land entrymen to the same extent as such assistance is available to homestead entrymen (p. 7343).

11. GENERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATION BILL, 1956. The Appropriations Committee reported with amendments this bill, H. R. 6499 (S. Rept. 573) (p. 7283).

12. DEFENSE DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1956. Began debate on this bill, H. R. 6042 (pp. 7332, 7350-1, 7354-8).

13. PERSONNEL. The Post Office and Civil Service Committee reported without amendment S. 1849, to provide for the granting of career-conditional and career appointments in the competitive civil service to indefinite employees who previously qualified for competitive appointment (S. Rept. 576) (p. 7283).  
The Government Operations Committee reported with amendments S. J. Res. 21, to establish a Commission on Government Security (S. Rept. 581) (p. 7283).

14. REORGANIZATION. The Government Operations Committee agreed to refer to its Subcommittee on Reorganization the eight Hoover Commission reports and draft legislation received thus far by the committee (S. Rept. 581) (p. 7283).

15. LAND TRANSFERS. Discussed and passed over upon objection by Sen. Morse H. R. 2973, to release reversionary rights to a former FHA tract in Macon County, Ga., to the Ga. Board of Education (pp. 7341-2).

16. RECLAMATION; ELECTRIFICATION. Sen. Mansfield inserted his statement favoring the construction of the proposed Yellowtail Dam (p. 7287).  
Sen. Watkins inserted his statement in answer to various charges made by Raymond Moley against reclamation programs in the West (pp. 7325-31).

17. ELECTRIFICATION. Sen. Neuberger criticized the administration's power policies and inserted newspaper articles on this subject (pp. 7288-90).

18. OPERATION ALERT. Sen. Humphrey criticized this Department for certain statements sent to farmers during Operation Alert, and stated that "this part of the operation might well be termed 'Operation Foul-up'" (pp. 7349-50).

19. WATER POLLUTION. Passed as reported S. 890, to extend and strengthen the Water Pollution Control Act (pp. 7334-8).

84TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S. 2097**

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 20, 1955

Referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs

---

**AN ACT**

To authorize the transfer to the Department of Agriculture, for agricultural purposes, of certain real property in Saint Croix, Virgin Islands.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3       That the Virgin Islands Corporation is authorized and di-  
4       rected to transfer and convey to the United States of America  
5       upon request of the Secretary of Agriculture, without cost,  
6       the real property comprising sixty acres more or less, to-  
7       gether with the buildings and improvements thereon, occu-  
8       pied and in use by the Department of Agriculture, which  
9       property is adjacent to the southwest corner of the intersec-  
10      tion of Centerline Road and Airport Road on the Island

1 of St. Croix, Virgin Islands: *Provided*, Upon the transfer  
2 and conveyance of such property by the Virgin Islands  
3 Corporation to the United States, the interest-bearing invest-  
4 ment of the United States in the Corporation shall be reduced  
5 by the net book value of such property.

Passed the Senate June 17 (legislative day, June 14),  
1955.

Attest:

FELTON M. JOHNSTON,

*Secretary.*



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## **AN ACT**

To authorize the transfer to the Department of Agriculture, for agricultural purposes, of certain real property in Saint Croix, Virgin Islands.

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JUNE 20, 1955

Referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs

question is on the third reading of the bill.

The bill (H. R. 6410) was ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

#### TRANSFER OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY IN ST. CROIX, VIRGIN ISLANDS

Mr. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for the present consideration of Calendar No. 562, Senate bill 2097.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will be read by title, for the information of the Senate.

The LEGISLATIVE CLERK. A bill (S. 2097) to authorize the transfer to the Department of Agriculture, for agricultural purposes, of certain real property in St. Croix, V. I.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the unanimous-consent request of the Senator from Texas?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. JOHNSTON of South Carolina. Mr. President, before the bill is passed, I ask unanimous consent to have printed at this point in the RECORD a statement which I send to the desk.

There being no objection, the statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

#### EXPLANATION OF S. 2097

This bill would direct the transfer of certain real property by the Virgin Islands Corporation, a wholly owned Government corporation, to the Department of Agriculture. The Department is presently using this property under a cooperative agreement for the research and extension program recently established for the Virgin Islands. It is desirable that the Department have permanent possession of these facilities so that it can make needed improvements and undertake long-range research.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there be no amendment to be proposed, the question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill (S. 2097) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed, as follows:

*Be it enacted, etc.*, That the Virgin Islands Corporation is authorized and directed to transfer and convey to the United States of America upon request of the Secretary of Agriculture, without cost, the real property comprising 60 acres more or less, together with the buildings and improvements thereon, occupied and in use by the Department of Agriculture, which property is adjacent to the southwest corner of the intersection of Centerline Road and Airport Road on the island of St. Croix, V. I.: *Provided*, Upon the transfer and conveyance of such property by the Virgin Islands Corporation to the United States, the interest-bearing investment of the United States in the Corporation shall be reduced by the net book value of such property.

#### EXTENSION SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS FOR LOW-INCOME FARMERS' PROGRAM

Mr. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for the present consideration of Calendar No. 563, Senate bill 2098.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will be read by title, for the information of the Senate.

The LEGISLATIVE CLERK. A bill (S. 2098) to amend Public Law 83, 83d Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the unanimous-consent request of the Senator from Texas?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. JOHNSTON of South Carolina. Mr. President, the bill was reported unanimously from the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry. I now send to the desk a brief statement, which I ask unanimous consent to have printed at this point in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

#### EXPLANATION OF S. 2098

This bill, which is a part of the President's program to assist low-income farmers, would authorize appropriations to meet the special needs of underdeveloped agricultural areas for extension service. The amounts appropriated for the purposes of the bill would be additional to the amounts now authorized for allotment on the basis of special needs by sections 3 (b) and 3 (c) of the Smith-Lever Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there be no amendment to be proposed, the question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill (S. 2098) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed, as follows:

*Be it enacted etc.*, That the Smith-Lever Act, as amended (7 U. S. C. 341 and the following, supp. 1), is further amended as follows:

(a) By adding a new section, following section 7, to read as follows:

"SEC. 8. In order to further the purposes of section 2 in agricultural areas which, because of special circumstances affecting such areas, are at a disadvantage insofar as agricultural development is concerned, and to encourage complementary development essential to the welfare of such areas, there is hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as the Congress from time to time shall determine to be necessary for payments to the States, Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico on the basis of special needs in such areas as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture. Sums appropriated in pursuance of this section shall be in addition to, and not in substitution for, appropriations otherwise available under this act."

(b) By renumbering section 8 to read section 9.

#### CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN TRACT OF LAND IN MACON COUNTY, GA.

Mr. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for the present consideration of Calendar No. 564, House bill 2973.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will be read by title, for the information of the Senate.

The LEGISLATIVE CLERK. A bill (H. R. 2973), to provide for the conveyance of all right, title, and interest of the United States in a certain tract of land in Macon County, Ga., to the Georgia State Board of Education.

Mr. JOHNSTON of South Carolina. Mr. President, the bill was reported unanimously from the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry. I ask unanimous consent to have printed at this point in the RECORD a statement regarding the bill.

There being no objection, the statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

#### EXPLANATION OF H. R. 2973

This bill provides for transfer to the Georgia State Board of Education of reversionary rights and reserved mineral rights in approximately 226 acres conveyed to the board in 1945 for school and community purposes. It appears that the property will continue to be used for those purposes and that this transfer is necessary to enable the board to qualify for additional improvements from State funds; 39.8 percent of the interests to be transferred are held for the Georgia Livestock Development Authority, and 60.2 percent are held for the United States.

Mr. MORSE. Mr. President, this is the bill I had in mind a few minutes ago, when I referred to Calendar 546. At that time I was advised, inaccurately, that Calendar 564, House bill 2973, had been passed. I then referred by mistake to Calendar 546, instead of Calendar 564, House bill 2973, the bill I had in mind.

Of course, Mr. President, the distinguished senior Senator from New Mexico [Mr. CHAVEZ] the Chairman of the Committee on Public Works, has always been an enthusiastic supporter of the Inter-American Highway, the subject of Calendar 546, House bill 5923.

I wish to address myself to the bill to which the Senator from Texas [Mr. JOHNSON] has just referred, namely Calendar 564, House bill 2973, providing for the conveyance of all right, title, and interest of the United States in a certain tract of land in Macon County, Ga., to the Georgia State Board of Education.

I wish to offer an amendment to House bill 2973. So far as I know, this is the first time in this session of Congress that a bill has been proposed which has sought to transfer Federal property rights to a State without any compensation whatsoever. The objective of this bill is good, but it is proposed to transfer a Federal reversionary interest in this property.

A reversionary interest is worth something. It can be appraised. I think it is a great mistake, in one session of Congress, to pass a property and retain in the Federal Government a reversionary interest in mineral rights, which is what the Congress did when this property was transferred in the first instance to the educational system of Georgia, and, in another session of Congress, complete the deal by another bill, which transfers the reversionary interest.

I do not know how much this reversionary interest is worth. I do not think it is worth very much, but that is for the appraisers to determine. Of course, it might be worth a great deal, if it should come to pass that oil or mineral deposits should be found on this piece of property.

I think we have gone a long way in the Senate in recent years in establishing a very sound policy in the disposal of Fed-

eral property, when we have required, in most instances, with very few exceptions, that a State or local government unit pay 50 percent of the appraised fair market value of the Federal interest in the property which is to be transferred.

Mr. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. President, inasmuch as the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry [Mr. ELLENDER] is not present, and inasmuch as neither of the distinguished Senators from Georgia is in the Chamber, the distinguished senior Senator [Mr. GEORGE] being indisposed, as my friend knows, and inasmuch as we were unable to get word in advance to the junior Senator from Georgia [Mr. RUSSELL], I wonder if it would be agreeable to the Senator from Oregon to pass on to another bill, and consider this proposed legislation at a later date, when the Senator's amendment can be offered and we can obtain the reactions to it when we have more time. Several Senators are interested in bills which it is desired to consider. I do not wish action on the bill to be taken in the absence of the chairman of the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, if any question is involved.

Mr. MORSE. It is perfectly satisfactory to me to defer consideration of the bill, with the understanding that I may send to the desk an amendment to the bill, in order that it may be printed and await future consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, consideration of the bill will be deferred; and, without objection, the amendment submitted by the Senator from Oregon will be printed and lie on the table.

Mr. MORSE subsequently said: Mr. President, I wish to make a brief statement in connection with calendar 564, H. R. 2974, so that the authors of the bill will have a complete record before them when they come to study my amendment tomorrow.

As I was saying, I believe this is the first bill in this session of Congress—at least it is the first to my knowledge—in which it is proposed to transfer Federal property interests without any compensation whatever to the Federal Government. As I said earlier, before I agreed to let the bill go over, we have gone a long way in the Senate in recent years in saving the taxpayers of this country millions of dollars—in fact hundreds of millions of dollars—by requiring payment to the Federal Government for the transfer of property to local governmental agencies.

When the property is to be transferred for public use, the standard formula has become 50 percent of the appraised fair market value of the property. When the transfer is for private use, it has been 100 percent of the appraised fair market value.

In all fairness to the proponents of the bill, I wish to say that with respect to this piece of property it was first transferred in the year 1945. That was before the Morse formula came into being in the Senate.

When the property was first transferred there was a reversionary clause attached to the conveyance, reserving in the people of the United States a rever-

sionary interest in the mineral and oil rights in the property.

I do not believe it is controlling in the premises, so far as the instant situation is concerned, that this property was originally transferred before the Morse formula came into being, because the Morse formula pertains to all Federal proprietary interests in federally owned property.

Therefore the question before the Senate is a very simple one. The question is: Is this reversionary interest of value to the taxpayers of the United States. The answer is in the affirmative. It has a value, which is now vested in the people of the country, for which the State of Georgia should pay 50 percent of the appraised fair market value. There is no question about this property going to public use, although it is interesting that in the committee report there is no assurance that the property will always be used for educational purposes. The committee in effect states that, so far as it knows, the State of Georgia intends to continue to use it for educational purposes. However, there is nothing binding about it. Once we transfer the reversionary interest, the State could proceed to use it for any purpose it pleased. Once the State has vested in it the fee simple title it can do with it what it pleases. It has possession of the property. There are no strings attached.

I do not think we should start making exceptions in the Senate with regard to these matters. I believe we have done a remarkably fine job in such cases by requiring some payment for Federal property. That has not been an easy course for the senior Senator from Oregon since 1946. I have had my ears battered down, if I may say so good naturally, and there have been times when muscle tensions have not been particularly relaxed toward the senior Senator from Oregon on the part of some of his colleagues.

Nevertheless, the overwhelming majority of my colleagues have said—just as one colleague said to me not more than 15 minutes ago in the cloakroom—"If you will just stick to it, and insist on your formula without exception, I will back you up." I happen to know that that is the private opinion of an overwhelming majority of my colleagues.

I believe the proponents of the bill, when they come to reflect upon it, particularly when they consider the fact that the reversionary interest will probably not run into a great amount of money, will agree that the Morse formula should be attached to the bill. That means that the State of Georgia, in order to get the reversionary interest, will have to pay 50 percent of the appraised fair market value.

If we start making an exception in the case of this bill, where will the end be? Merely because we have an item before us which may not run into many dollars, I do not believe we can justify violating a very sound public policy principle which has been established by the Morse formula.

We are dealing here with 264 and a fraction acres of land. I hope that when the bill comes up its proponents will voluntarily agree on the floor of the

Senate to accept my amendment, which is on file at the desk, and which calls upon the State of Georgia to pay 50 percent of the appraised fair market value for the reversionary interest.

Because some Senators who are not lawyers may believe that this is not of great importance as a matter of principle, let me point out that a reversionary interest in property can become exceedingly valuable. If, hypothetically speaking, oil or a valuable mineral deposit should be found on the land, we would recognize how important is the principle for which I am fighting on the floor of the Senate.

Mr. President, I am rather proud of the fact that since 1946 there has been saved for the taxpayers of the United States, through the application of the Morse formula, in excess of \$450 million in property, including property covered by bills which have come before us with the formula written into them, but not counting, of course, those pieces of property which if the gates had been wide open would have been transferred for the benefit of local constituents.

I hope my friends in the Senate who are proponents of the bill will not feel unkindly toward me because I have once again taken the same position with respect to this bill that I have taken with respect to all other bills involving the same problem. I hope the proponents of the bill will study the amendment and read my remarks so that when it comes up again I will hear them say, "Although we would prefer that the Senator from Oregon did not insist in such a stickler fashion, we are in accord with the principle and we are willing to accept the amendment."

Mr. JOHNSTON of South Carolina. Mr. President, will the Senator from Oregon yield?

Mr. MORSE. I yield.

Mr. JOHNSTON of South Carolina. We all agree that the Senator from Oregon has always interceded in matters of this kind and has objected to giving reversionary rights unless they are paid for. We expected him to do the same at this time. But at the present time the two Senators from Georgia are absent, and we wished, for that reason, to have the bill go over.

Mr. MORSE. That is perfectly satisfactory.

#### PROHIBITION OF PUBLICATION OF APPLE PRICES

Mr. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 565, House bill 5188.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will be stated by title for the information of the Senate.

The LEGISLATIVE CLERK. A bill (H. R. 5188) to prohibit publication by the Government of the United States of any prediction with respect to apple prices.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the present consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the bill was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.





*House*

*June 22, 1955*

~~14. PERSONNEL.~~ The "Daily Digest" states that "Conferees, in executive session, agreed to file a conference report on the differences between the Senate- and House-passed versions of S. 67, to adjust the rates of basic compensation of certain officers and employees of the Federal Government. As agreed by the conferees, the bill would -- (1) Provide a 7.5-percent increase retroactive to March 1, 1955; (2) Increase by 5 each the figures in the House-passed bill in grades Nos. 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 11, and 13; (3) Include all classified employees in the executive branch of the Government, including the D. C. Government, and all legislative and judicial employees; and (4) Increase the total cost of the bill to the Government to \$328,383,000" (p. D601).  
The Post Office and Civil Service Committee ordered reported H. R. 6590, to prohibit the employment by the Federal Government of persons who are disloyal or who believe in the right to strike against the Government (p. D600).  
The Judiciary Committee ordered reported H. J. Res. 157, to establish a Commission on Government Security (p. D600).

~~15. AUDITING.~~ Received from the Comptroller General a report on the audit of ACPS; to Government Operations Committee (p. 7719).

~~16. VETERANS' BENEFITS.~~ The Veterans' Affairs Committee reported without amendment H. R. 4006, to provide that education and training allowances paid to veterans pursuing institutional on-farm training shall not be reduced for 12 months after they have begun their training (H. Rept. 881) (p. 7719).

~~17. INVESTIGATIONS.~~ Adopted as reported H. Res. 265, to authorize the Agriculture Committee to make investigations into certain matters within its jurisdiction (pp. 7661-2). Reps. Patman and Cooley discussed the extent the investigation would apply to the family-type farm (p. 7662).

~~18. CUSTOMS SIMPLIFICATION.~~ Passed as reported H. R. 6040, to amend the administrative provisions of the Tariff Act of 1930 and to repeal obsolete provisions of the customs laws (pp. 7662-81). Rejected, 143 to 232, a motion by Rep. Simpson to recommit the bill (pp. 7680-1).

~~19. FOREIGN AID.~~ The Foreign Affairs Committee ordered reported with amendments S. 2090, the mutual security bill (p. D598). The "Daily Digest" states that: The committee reduced the required figure for the use of agricultural surplus from the \$300 million in the Senate bill to 250 million as requested by the executive branch; eliminated the 50-50 shipping clause from the transport of agricultural commodities not only under this act, but also under Public Law 480, the surplus agricultural disposal act; extended for 1 year the law permitting free import privileges for personal and household effects brought into the U. S. by Government employees returning from foreign assignment (p. D598).

~~20. DAIRY PROGRAM.~~ Rep. Johnson, Wis., inserted various farm organization statements outlining their suggestions for a dairy program (pp. 7690-7714).

~~21. PROPERTY.~~ The Interior and Insular Affairs Committee ordered reported with amendment H. R. 6692, to transfer land and buildings now used for research under cooperative agreement with the Virgin Islands Corporation (p. D599).

~~22. FOREIGN TRADE.~~ Received a report of the National Advisory Council on International Monetary and Financial Problems; to Foreign Affairs Committee (H. Doc. 194) (p. 7661).

23. LANDS. The Interior and Insular Affairs Committee ordered reported H. R. 4096, to provide for the disposal of public lands within highway, telephone, and pipeline withdrawals in Alaska, subject to appropriate easements, etc. (p. D599).

ITEMS IN APPENDIX

24. FOREST SERVICE. Rep. Landrum inserted an editorial commending the work of the Forest Service and approving of the increase in its appropriation (p. A4536).

25. RECLAMATION; ELECTRIFICATION. Rep. Baldwin inserted an editorial from the San Francisco Chronicle pointing out that there is still a chance that the Echo Park Dam project may be included in the upper Colorado River development project (p. A4536).

Senator Neuberger inserted two statements by the Citizens Committee on Natural Resources, warning against the passage of the upper Colorado reclamation bill on the grounds that it may still permit the building of Echo Park Dam (pp. A4545-6).

Rep. McDonough opposed the upper Colorado project, stating that it would divert some of California's share of water to other areas, and inserted some correspondence in which the president of the California Taxpayers Association challenged the accuracy of cost estimates for this project (pp. A4566-7).

Rep. Hosmer inserted a newspaper editorial denouncing the upper Colorado project as socialistic and extravagant (p. A4568). He also inserted a statement criticizing the Emery irrigation project, Utah, a part of the upper Colorado project (p. A4573).

Rep. Allott inserted letters and statements, including a statement from REA, describing terms of a contract of the Southern Colorado Co. to supply power to three Colorado cooperatives (pp. A4544-5).

Sen. Lehman inserted a statement of his views regarding the St. Lawrence River project in relation to a proposed contract between the New York Power Authority and Alcoa Aluminum Co., and included a lengthy discussion of the principles of public power development in general (pp. A4539-43).

Sen. Morse inserted an article from the Yakima, Wash. Morning Herald warning that the time is getting short for approval of construction of a high dam at Hells Canyon (pp. 4548-9).

Speech in the House by Rep. Miller, N. Y., opposing authorization of the Trinity River Division of the Central Valley project as now proposed and urging its development in the future by private power interests (pp. A4562-3).

26. CONSERVATION. Sen. Morse inserted two student essays, "What Conservation Means to Me" (pp. A4546-7).

27. LIVESTOCK. Rep. Miller, Nebr., inserted a resolution of the Nebraska Stock Growers Association giving its position on various Government farm policies (p. A4547).

28. FOREIGN TRADE. Rep. Scudder inserted a newspaper editorial urging higher tariffs on crabmeat and tuna imported from Japan (p. A4550).

Rep. Addonizio inserted an Italian-American newspaper article charging that tariff barriers against Italian imports are strengthening Communism in Italy (p. A4559).





July 5, 1955

House  
-3-

12. AIR POLLUTION. Passed with amendment S. 928, to provide for research on, and control of, air pollution (pp. 8509-11). For provisions of the bill, see Digest 112.

13. WHEAT. Both Houses received from the Secretary of Agriculture a letter recommending that the present exemption of durum wheat from marketing quotas be extended for one year, that wheat growers be exempted from marketing quota penalties if all of the wheat produced on their farm is used for food, feed, or seed on the farm where produced, that expansion of the non-commercial wheat areas beyond the present 12 States be authorized, that the Secretary of Agriculture be authorized to dispose of not to exceed 100 million bushels annually of low grade wheat for feed at prices 10% above the support price for corn, and (although this can be done administratively) that the Department be authorized to discount for price supports certain varieties of wheat, especially those suitable primarily for feed purposes. Referred to the Agriculture Committee (pp. 8426, 8526).

14. LANDS. Passed over without prejudice H. R. 4280, directing the Secretary of Agriculture to transfer certain submarginal lands to Clemson College, at the request of Rep. Cunningham (pp. 8477-8).

The Interior and Insular Affairs Committee ordered the following bills reported: S. 1878, to extend for five years the authority to convey to Miles City, Mont., certain ARS lands in Custer County; S. 2097, to authorize the transfer to the Agriculture Department, for research purposes, of certain real property in St. Croix, V. I.; H. R. 4096, amended, to provide for the disposal of public lands within highway, telephone, and pipeline withdrawals in Alaska; and H. R. 4308, amended, for the relief of desert-land entrymen whose entries are dependent upon percolating waters for reclamation (p. B659).

15. FOODS; ANIMAL DISEASES. Passed over without prejudice H. R. 6991, to revise, codify, and enact into positive law title 21 of the United States Code, "Food, Drugs, and Cosmetics," at the request of Rep. Cunningham (p. 8482).

16. FARM LABOR. Rep. Rogers, Colo., gave notice that he intended to offer an amendment to H. R. 3822, the Mexican farm labor bill, when it is debated. The proposed amendment would provide for regulation of transportation of Mexican farm laborers (p. 8470).

17. APPROPRIATIONS. Received from the President a supplemental appropriation estimate for the Labor Department for the Mexican farm labor program (H. Doc. 200) (June 29.)

18. STATE COMPACTS. Passed without amendment S. 1007, in lieu of H. R. 3758, to provide that GSA receive authenticated copies of compact entered into between the States (pp. 8471-2). This bill is now ready for the President.

19. PAPERWORK STUDIES. Agreed to H. Res. 262, with amendments, providing that the House Administration Committee instead of the Subcommittee on Printing make studies of unnecessary Government printing and paperwork (pp. 8524-5).

20. SOIL SURVEYS. Both Houses received a report from the Secretary of the Interior on soil survey and land classification of the lands to be benefited by the rehabilitation of major facilities of the Medford and Rogue River Valley Irrigation Districts, Oregon. Referred to the Appropriations Committee (pp. 8427, 8526).

21. CIVIL DEFENSE. Received the fourth annual report of the Federal Civil Defense Administration. Referred to the Armed Services Committee (pp. 8526-7).

22. LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM. The "Daily Digest" states: On Wed., July 6, "the House will consider ... H. R. 6059, to authorize the President to enter into trade agreements with the Philippines and revise the 1946 Trade Agreement between the two countries; and also may act on H. R. 3822, to extend the Mexican farm labor program." (p. D659.)

#### BILLS INTRODUCED

23. EDUCATION; INFORMATION. S. 2410, by Sen. Smith, N. J., (for himself and others to promote the foreign policy of the United States by amending the United States Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948 (Public Law 402, 80th Cong.); to Foreign Relations Committee (p. 8427). Remarks of author (pp. 8431-3).

24. MINERALS. S. 2415, by Sen. Bible, to amend the Domestic Minerals Program Extension Act of 1953 in order to extend the programs to encourage the discovery development, and production of certain domestic minerals; to Interior and Insular Affairs Committee (p. 8427).

25. LIVESTOCK. H. R. 7173, by Rep. Willis, to amend section 302 of the Packers and Stockyards Act of 1921 so as to make such act inapplicable to stockyards which engage exclusively in the sale of livestock on commission at public auction; to Agriculture Committee (p. 8527).

#### ITEMS IN APPENDIX

26. FOREIGN TRADE. Sen. Lehman stated that the "defense essentiality" provision of the Reciprocal Trade Extension Act has been used as a justification for the increased tariff on Swiss watches, and inserted some New York Journal of Commerce articles maintaining that watches are not essential to national defense (pp. A4859-61).  
Rep. Jonas inserted a Charlotte, N. C., Chamber of Commerce resolution condemning recent tariff cuts in Japanese textiles (p. A4869).

27. RECLAMATION; ELECTRIFICATION. Rep. Johnson, Wis., inserted an article from an REA journal describing an all-electric farm in Barron County, Wis. (p. A4862).  
Rep. Wilson, Calif., inserted an article by Rep. Hosmer giving strong arguments against the proposed Echo Park and Glen Park power projects, a part of the Colorado River storage project (pp. A4862-3).  
Rep. Lipscomb inserted a report by the Washington research office of the Council of State Chambers of Commerce which terms the Colorado River storage project "one of the most expensive but least economic water resource projects ever enacted upon by Congress", and gives estimates of each State's share of the cost of this project (p. A4863-5).  
Rep. Dawson inserted a St. Louis Post-Dispatch article urging authorization of the upper Colorado River storage project in view of the elimination of the Echo Park Dam (p. A4882). He also inserted a Washington Post article along the same lines (pp. A4892-3).  
Rep. Evans inserted Brew Pearson's article describing a "secret meeting" of top Government officials which preceded the President's recent decision to investigate the Dixon-Yates power contract (pp. A4866-7).  
Rep. Hosmer inserted articles from newspapers in Idaho (p. A4881), Wisconsin (pp. A4882-3), and South Carolina (pp. A4889-90), criticizing the upper Colorado River storage project.





# Digest of CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS

## OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
(For Department Staff Only)

Issued July 7, 1955  
For actions of July 6, 1955  
84th-1st, No. 114

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**HIGHLIGHTS:** Senate agreed to House amendment to air pollution bill. Senate committee ordered reported bills to: increase funds for P. L. 480 and transfer its administration to USDA; include onions under CEA; amend Farm Tenant Act; provide for USDA report on tobacco research program; request USDA report on agricultural weather forecasting. House passed Mexican farm labor bill. House Rules Committee cleared farm credit bill. House received conference report on mutual security bill. Rep. Whitten discussed and inserted report on expanded foreign farm production.

### HOUSE

- ~~1. APPROPRIATIONS.~~ Conferees were appointed on H. R. 6766, the public works appropriation bill, which includes funds for the Atomic Energy Commission, Tennessee Valley Authority, certain agencies of the Interior Department, and civil functions administered by the Army (p. 8565).
- ~~2. FOREIGN AID.~~ Received the conference report on S. 2090, the mutual security bill (H. Rept. 1071) (pp. 8604-5). The House conferees "accepted the provision in the Senate bill requiring that \$300,000,000 of the funds authorized be used to finance the export and sale for foreign currencies of United States surplus agricultural commodities, with a clarifying amendment. The House amendment provided for a cumulative total of \$600,000,000 of such exports including \$350,000,000 for fiscal 1955 and \$250,000,000 for fiscal 1956.

"It was the judgment of the committee of conference that this increased requirement for the utilization of United States surplus farm products in the mutual-security program could be met without impairing the effectiveness of the program."

3. FOREIGN TRADE. Rep. Whitten alleged that trade exponents, financial interests and the technical assistance programs are conspiring to increase foreign agricultural production at the expense of the American farmer, consumer, and national interest, and that the Department of Agriculture has refused to sell surplus commodities "on a truly competitive basis." He inserted a report on agricultural commodities in foreign trade and the American farm program (pp. 8565, 8609-22).

4. FARM LABOR. Passed with committee amendments H. R. 3822, the Mexican farm labor bill (pp. 8586-8604). The Committee amendments provide for the extension of the Act until June 30, 1959; relieves employers of double liability for the cost of returning a worker to Mexico where the employer has paid once for such movement but the Mexican does not return and is later apprehended; and specifies that the Secretary of Labor is to obtain information on the availability of domestic workers, prevailing wage rates, and labor shortages in the area, and then post publicly the number of workers to be imported. The House rejected amendments that sought to: (1) require employers to offer domestic workers identical conditions and terms of employment as Mexican labor before the importation of Mexican laborers; (2) require the Agriculture Secretary to prescribe employer regulations for the safety, health, and welfare of workers being transported; (3) require the Attorney General to deport or return to reception centers workers who work for less than the prevailing wage.

5. PROPERTY. Passed without amendment S. 1290, to provide for the construction of certain Government buildings under the redevelopment plans of the District of Columbia (pp. 8605-6). This bill is now ready for the President. The Interior and Insular Affairs Committee reported without amendment S. 2097, authorizing the transfer to the Agriculture Department, for research purposes, of certain real property in St. Croix, V. I. (H. Rept. 1066) (p. 8623).

6. FARM CREDIT. The Rules Committee reported without amendment a resolution for the consideration and debate of H. R. 5168, which would amend the Farm Credit Act of 1955 (pp. 8604, 8623).

7. RECLAMATION. Received a report from the Comptroller General on the audit of the Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior, for the fiscal years ended June 30, 1952 and 1953. Referred to the Government Operations Committee (p. 8623).

8. LANDS. The Interior and Insular Affairs Committee reported with amendment H. R. 4096, providing for the disposal of public lands within highway, telephone, and pipeline withdrawals in Alaska (H. Rept. 1062) (p. 8623).

9. MINING; FORESTS. The Interior and Insular Affairs Committee reported with amendment H. R. 6373, to extend programs to encourage the discovery, development, and production of certain domestic minerals (H. Rept. 1070) (p. 8623).

10. CUSTOMS. The Public Works Committee ordered reported H. R. 6769, to amend the act to provide better facilities for the enforcement of the customs and immigration laws so as to increase the amounts authorized to be expended (p. D668).

11. LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM. The "Daily Digest" states that on Thurs., July 7, "the House will consider H. R. 6059, to authorize the President of the United States to enter into an agreement with the President of the Republic of the Philippines to revise the 1946 trade agreement between the United States and the Republic of the Philippines" (p. D665).

AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER TO THE DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE, FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES, OF  
CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY IN ST. CROIX, V. I.

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JULY 6, 1955.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State  
of the Union and ordered to be printed

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Mr. ENGLE, from the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,  
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany S. 2097]

The Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (S. 2097) to authorize the transfer to the Department of Agriculture, for agricultural purposes, of certain real property in St. Croix, V. I., having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

EXPLANATION OF THE BILL

The purpose of S. 2097 is to direct the transfer of certain real property in St. Croix, V. I., now owned by the Virgin Islands Corporation, to the Department of Agriculture. The Department is presently using this property under a cooperative agreement for the research and extension program recently established for the Virgin Islands. It is desirable that the Department have permanent possession of these facilities to complete its program which will benefit the Virgin Islands' economy.

An identical bill, H. R. 6692, was introduced in the House as the result of an executive communication from the Department of Agriculture. A copy of the executive communication and the "no objection" report of the Department of the Interior on H. R. 6692 follow:

MAY 24, 1955.

The SPEAKER,  
*House of Representatives.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Transmitted herewith for the consideration of the Congress is a proposed bill, to authorize the transfer to the Department of Agriculture, for agricultural purposes, of certain real property in St. Croix, V. I. The purpose of the proposed bill is to transfer, without cost, land and buildings now

## 2 TRANSFER OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY IN ST. CROIX, V. I.

used by the Virgin Islands agricultural program, under cooperative agreement with the Virgin Islands Corporation, to the Department of Agriculture, in order to develop a more effective research and extension program for the Virgin Islands.

At the time the new Virgin Islands agricultural program was initiated, in accordance with Public Law 228, 82d Congress, the Department secured approximately 60 acres of land and several buildings, under a cooperative agreement with the Virgin Islands Corporation. The cooperative agreement under which the property is now made available to the Department expires August 20, 1957.

This land is almost in the center of the agricultural area of Saint Croix. It is located at the intersection of the main two roads on the island and thus is readily accessible to the farm and rural people the program is designed to serve. The 60 acres consist roughly of 40 acres of good level farmland which is very adaptable to plot work or to demonstration-type experiments. The remaining 20 acres is rough and not generally usable for agricultural purposes, except for certain types of plant introductions which require shaded or wooded areas, but provides a good site for necessary buildings and facilities.

The facilities are adequate for carrying out the current research and extension program for the islands. They consist of an old house, which was converted into laboratory and office space, and a stone garage.

If the Government is to continue a research and extension program in the Virgin Islands, it is essential that the Department acquire a permanent location. For the foregoing reasons, the Department is interested in this particular area.

One of the objectives of the program is to introduce better varieties of crop plants to improve production in the islands. There would be little purpose in establishing groves of mangoes, limes, and similar trees unless the Department would have assurance that it can control the land on which they are planted long enough to secure results from the research undertaken.

Also, there are certain facilities which must be added. To assure adequate water, a well should be dug, a certain amount of additional road is necessary, protective fencing is essential and certain changes in the structures would be desirable if the Department is to develop first-class laboratory facilities. The Department is hesitant to undertake this type of operation unless it has assurance that it can continue to use the property.

It is highly desirable that title to this 60 acres of land and its facilities be acquired by the Department of Agriculture from the Virgin Islands Corporation in order that the Department will be in a position to develop the long-range aspects of the Virgin Islands research and extension program.

A similar letter is being sent to the President of the Senate.

The Bureau of the Budget advises that there is no objection to the transmission of the proposed legislation to the Congress for its consideration.

Sincerely yours,

E. T. BENSON, *Secretary.*

A BILL To authorize the transfer to the Department of Agriculture, for agricultural purposes, of certain real property in Saint Croix, Virgin Islands

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Virgin Islands Corporation is authorized and directed to transfer and convey to the United States of America upon request of the Secretary of Agriculture, without cost, the real property comprising 60 acres more or less, together with the buildings and improvements thereon, occupied and in use by the Department of Agriculture, which property is adjacent to the southwest corner of the intersection of Centerline Road and Airport Road on the Island of St. Croix, Virgin Islands: *Provided*, Upon the transfer and conveyance of such property by the Virgin Islands Corporation to the United States, the interest-bearing investment of the United States in the Corporation shall be reduced by the net book value of such property.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,  
Washington, D. C., June 10, 1955.

Hon. CLAIR ENGLE,

*Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,  
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR MR. ENGLE: This will reply to your request for the views of this Department on H. R. 6692, a bill to authorize the transfer to the Department of Agriculture, for agricultural purposes, of certain real property in Saint Croix, V. I. This Department has no objection to the enactment of H. R. 6692.

TRANSFER OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY IN ST. CROIX, V. I. 3

The purpose of H. R. 6692 is to transfer to the Department of Agriculture approximately 60 acres of land, together with the buildings and improvements thereon, title to which is now held by the Virgin Islands Corporation. The property in question is now being used by the Department of Agriculture under a lease from the Virgin Islands Corporation for a term of 5 years, which term is due to expire on August 20, 1957. The lease contains provisions giving the United States an option to purchase the property at any time during the term of the lease for the sum of \$25,000.

Enactment of the bill would enable the Department of Agriculture to plan for the permanent use of the property in carrying forward its important research and extension program in the Virgin Islands, a use to which the property appears to be well suited. While this objective seemingly could also be accomplished through the exercise of the purchase option contained in the present lease, exercise of the option would entail the transfer of \$25,000 from the appropriations of the Department of Agriculture to the funds of the Virgin Islands Corporation. Under H. R. 6692, no transfer of funds would be required.

The proviso in the bill states that when the property is conveyed by the Virgin Islands Corporation to the United States, the interest-bearing investment of the United States in the Corporation shall be reduced by the net book value of such property. This proviso is essential in order to provide for crediting the value of the property against the indebtedness of the Corporation to the United States. In the absence of the proviso, the Corporation would be obligated to the United States for assets no longer held by it. One of the basic principles of the Virgin Islands Corporation Act is that the accounts of the Corporation shall be maintained on a basis that will accurately reflect its fiscal position, the results of its operations, and its fiscal relations with the United States. The proviso therefore serves the necessary end of granting to the Corporation a credit on its indebtedness equal to the value of the property so transferred.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that there is no objection to the presentation of this report to your committee.

Sincerely yours,

CLARENCE A. DAVIS,  
*Acting Secretary of the Interior.*

The Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs recommends the enactment of S. 2097.





# Union Calendar No. 312

84<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# S. 2097

[Report No. 1066]

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 20, 1955

Referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs

JULY 6, 1955

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union  
and ordered to be printed

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## AN ACT

To authorize the transfer to the Department of Agriculture, for agricultural purposes, of certain real property in Saint Croix, Virgin Islands.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3       That the Virgin Islands Corporation is authorized and di-  
4       rected to transfer and convey to the United States of America  
5       upon request of the Secretary of Agriculture, without cost,  
6       the real property comprising sixty acres more or less, to-  
7       gether with the buildings and improvements thereon, occu-  
8       pied and in use by the Department of Agriculture, which  
9       property is adjacent to the southwest corner of the intersec-  
10      tion of Centerline Road and Airport Road on the Island

1 of St. Croix, Virgin Islands: *Provided*, Upon the transfer  
2 and conveyance of such property by the Virgin Islands  
3 Corporation to the United States, the interest-bearing invest-  
4 ment of the United States in the Corporation shall be reduced  
5 by the net book value of such property.

Passed the Senate June 17 (legislative day, June 14),  
1955.

Attest:

FELTON M. JOHNSTON,  
*Secretary.*



84TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S. 2097**

[Report No. 1066]

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## AN ACT

To authorize the transfer to the Department of Agriculture, for agricultural purposes, of certain real property in Saint Croix, Virgin Islands.

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JUNE 20, 1955

Referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular

Affairs

JULY 6, 1955

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# Digest of CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS

## OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
(For Department Staff Only)

Issued July 19, 1955  
For actions of July 18, 1955  
84th-1st, No. 120

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### HOUSE

- ~~1. FOREIGN AFFAIRS.~~ Both Houses received the President's annual report on U. S. participation in the United Nations (H. Doc. 219) (pp. 9153, 9231).
- ~~2. RESERVE FORCES.~~ House conferees were appointed on H. R. 7000, the reserve forces bill (pp. 9232, 9234). Senate conferees have not yet been appointed.
- ~~3. LAND TRANSFER.~~ Passed as reported H. R. 4280, conveying certain submarginal lands to Clemson College, S. C. (pp. 9235-6).  
Passed as reported H. J. Res. 276, authorizing the Texas Hill Country Development Foundation to convey certain land to Kerr County, Tex., and such county to convey a portion thereof to the State, for extension work (p. 9263).  
Passed as reported H. R. 4096, providing for the disposal of public lands within highway, telephone, and pipeline withdrawals in Alaska (p. 9264).  
Passed without amendment S. 1878, extending for five years the authority to transfer certain ARS lands to Miles City, Mont. (p. 9265). Ready for President.  
Both Houses received a draft of proposed legislation from the Secretary of Agriculture, "to authorize an exchange of land at the Agricultural Research Center;" to Agriculture Committees (pp. 9154, 9338).

The Agriculture Committee reported without amendment H. J. Res. 112, to resease reversionary rights to improvements on a three acre tract of former FHA lands in Orangeburg County, S. C. (H. Rept. 1193) (p. 9338).

4. LANDS. Passed with amendment S. 1177, after substituting in the bill the language of H. R. 4308, which was subsequently laid on the table (p. 9265). The bill as passed provides for the relief of desert land entrymen whose entries are dependent upon percolating water for reclamation.
5. FOOD AND DRUGS; ANIMAL DISEASES. Passed without amendment H. R. 6991, to amend certain sections of Title 21 of the Food and Drug Act (pp. 9237-61). A statement from the USDA was inserted in the Record by Rep. Byrnes, Wis., to the effect that certain amendments were contemplated by USDA and would be brought to the attention of the Senate Judiciary Committee.
6. SURPLUS PROPERTY. Passed with amendment S. 614, after substituting in the bill the language of H. R. 3757, which was subsequently laid on the table. The bill as passed authorizes GSA to donate certain property to the American National Red Cross (pp. 9261-2).  
Rep. Brooks, Tex., discussed H. R. 7227, to donate surplus property to civil defense organizations (p. 9239).
7. REAL PROPERTY. Passed without amendment S. 2097, to authorize the transfer of certain property for research purposes from the Virgin Islands Corporation to the USDA (p. 9264). This bill will now be sent to the President.
8. SOIL CONSERVATION. The Agriculture Committee reported without amendment S. 1167, to specifically provide for conservation payments to farmers who, in order to benefit their own lands, carry out conservation practices on Federal lands (H. Rept. 1192) (p. 9338).
9. WATER CONSERVATION. The Agriculture Committee reported without amendment H. R. 7236, to amend the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act with respect to water-conservation practices (H. Rept. 1199) (p. 9339).
10. MARKETING. The Agriculture Committee reported with amendment H. R. 5337, to amend the provisions of the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act, 1930, relating to practices in the marketing of perishable agricultural commodities (H. Rept. 1196) (p. 9338).
11. CCC. The Agriculture Committee reported without amendment H. R. 7252, to permit sale of CCC stock of basic and storable nonbasic agricultural commodities without restriction, where similar commodities are exported in raw or processed form (H. Rept. 1203) (p. 9339).
12. RESEARCH; DISEASE CONTROL. The Agriculture Committee ordered the following bills reported on Fri., July 15: S. 1166, to permit imports from the British Virgin Islands into the U. S. Virgin Islands for slaughter only, cattle and poultry which have been freed from tick infection; and S. 1759, amended, relating to appropriation of Federal funds for support of agricultural experiment stations in the States, Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico (p. D723).
13. INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS. The Legislative Reporting Staff has a few copies, for lending and reference purposes, of study committee reports, etc., of the Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, as follows: "Federal Aid to Airports," "Natural Resources and Conservation," "Twenty-five Federal Grant-in-Aid Programs," "Federal Aid to Public Health," "Federal Aid to Highways," "Natural Disaster Relief," "Payments in Lieu of Taxes and Shared Revenues,"

58 Stat. 800 as amended; 31 U. S. C. 95a), is amended to read as follows:

That whenever (1) any disbursing officer of the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marine Corps incurs or has incurred a physical loss or deficiency of any Government funds, vouchers, records, or papers in his charge and (2) the Secretary of the department concerned determines that such loss or deficiency occurred while the officer was in line of his duty and that such loss or deficiency occurred without fault or negligence on his part, the General Accounting Office shall relieve such officer of the liability for such loss or deficiency, or authorize the reimbursement, from any appropriation or fund made available for that purpose, of amounts paid by or on behalf of such officer in restitution of such loss or deficiency. Any determination made by the Secretary of the department concerned under this act shall be conclusive upon the General Accounting Office. No relief may be granted under this act with respect to any deficiency in the accounts of any disbursing officer which results from any illegal or erroneous payment. This act shall not deprive any disbursing officer of any right which he otherwise may have to obtain relief by any other means with respect to any loss or deficiency covered by this act."

(b) No reimbursement shall be made under the amendment made by subsection (a) for any loss or deficiency occurring before the date of enactment of this act.

Sec. 3. The second paragraph under the heading "Pay, miscellaneous," of the first section of the act of July 11, 1919 (41 Stat. 132, as amended; 31 U. S. C. 105), is hereby repealed.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### CONVEYANCE OF LAND TO VILLAGE OF NECEDAH, WIS.

The Clerk called the bill (H. R. 2889) to provide for the conveyance of certain land in Necedah, Wis., to the village of Necedah.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

*Be it enacted, etc.*, That the Administrator of General Services is hereby authorized and directed to convey to the village of Necedah, Wis., all right, title, and interest of the United States to the land described in section 2 in consideration of \$1. The village of Necedah purchased such land and sold it to the United States in 1938 for \$1. Since that time, such land has been declared surplus to the needs of the Federal Government.

Sec. 2. The land referred to in the first section of this act is located in the village of Necedah, Juneau County, Wis., and is more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at a stake on the north line of the right-of-way of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway, formerly known as the Princeton & Western Railway; said stake to the land described in section 2 in consideration of \$1 bearing north thirty-three degrees east one hundred and sixty-one feet from the corner of block 1, original plat of Necedah, said corner of block being at the intersection of Main and First Streets (formerly known as Hilleboe's corner); thence north nine degrees and fifteen minutes east one hundred and fifty-five feet to a stake in the pond; thence north seventy-seven degrees thirty minutes west one hundred and twenty-two feet to a stake in the pond; thence south sixty-one degrees thirty minutes west two hundred and nine feet to a stake in the edge of the pond six feet north of dead birch tree; thence south eleven de-

grees forty-five minutes west fifty-two feet to a stake on the north side of the railway right-of-way; thence south eighty-four degrees east along the right-of-way two hundred and ninety-two feet to commencement point (magnetic variation for survey Zero) (November 24, 1898); reserving all water rights and right to overflow said land by backwater from dam in the village of Necedah 1898).

With the following committee amendments:

Page 1, line 6, after "\$1", strike the period and insert: "and upon such terms and conditions as may in the determination of the Administrator of General Services be necessary to safeguard the interests of the United States: *Provided, however*, That said property shall for a period of not less than 20 years be used for public purposes, and in the event of discontinuance of public use, shall, in its then existing condition, at the option of the United States as determined by the Secretary of Interior, revert to the United States."

Page 3, line 23, after "1898)", change the semicolon to a period. Strike the language beginning "reserving all water rights \* \* \*" down through and including "Necedah." on line 23.

The committee amendments were agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### TEXAS HILL COUNTRY DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

The Clerk read the House joint resolution (H. J. Res. 276) to authorize the Texas Hill Country Development Foundation to convey certain land to Kerr County, Tex., and such county to convey a portion thereof to the State of Texas.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

*Resolved, etc.*, That, notwithstanding the second paragraph of the joint resolution entitled "Joint resolution to provide for the conveyance to the Texas Hill Country Development Foundation of certain surplus land situated in Kerr County, Tex.," approved June 28, 1954 (Private Law 480, 83d Cong.), or any term, reservation, restriction, or condition placed in the deed of conveyance (dated February 1, 1955) granted by the Administrator of General Services under authority of such joint resolution, the Texas Hill Country Development Foundation is hereby authorized to convey to Kerr County, Tex., all of the land described in such deed February 1, 1955.

Sec. 2. Kerr County, Tex., is authorized to convey to the State of Texas for military purposes not in excess of 10 acres of any land which may be conveyed to it under authority of the first section of this act.

Sec. 3. Any deed of conveyance granted under authority of this act shall be subject to the same terms and conditions, and the land conveyed thereby shall be used for the same purposes, as required by such joint resolution of June 28, 1954, and the deed granted under authority thereof, except that the land conveyed to the State of Texas shall be used for military purposes for a period of not less than 25 years unless reconveyed to Kerr County, Tex., for the purposes required by the said joint resolution of June 28, 1954.

With the following committee amendments:

Page 2, lines 5 through 8: Delete all of section 2.

Page 2, line 9, change "SEC. 3" to "SEC. 2."

Page 2, line 13, after "thereof", change the comma to a period.

Page 2, line 14: delete all the language beginning "except that the land \* \* \*" and continuing through line 18.

The committee amendments were agreed to.

The joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed.

The title was amended so as to read: "To authorize the Texas Hill Country Development Foundation to convey certain land to Kerr County, Tex."

#### CONVEYANCE OF PORTION OF FORMER O'REILLY GENERAL HOSPITAL, SPRINGFIELD, MO.

The Clerk read the bill (H. R. 482) to provide for the conveyance of a portion of the former O'Reilly General Hospital, Springfield, Mo., to the State of Missouri, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

*Be it enacted, etc.*, That the General Services Administrator is authorized and directed, upon certification to him by the Secretary of Defense and the Governor of Missouri that the property described in section 2 of this act is needed for the training or support of the National Guard of Missouri, to convey the property to the State of Missouri by quitclaim deed, without monetary consideration therefor, but subject to such reservations, restrictions, and other terms and conditions as the Administrator determines to be necessary to properly protect the interests of the United States.

Sec. 2. The real property to be conveyed to the State of Missouri is described as follows:

A parcel of land in the city of Springfield, Green County, Mo., being a portion of the former O'Reilly General Hospital, and beginning at a point 31 poles and 20 links south of the northwest corner of northeast quarter of section 18, township 29, range 21, for a point of true beginning; running thence south 661.3 feet to a woven wire fence; running thence east along said fence 66 poles and 18 links; running thence north 661.3 feet to a point 31 poles and 20 links south of the north line of the northeast quarter of section 18, township 29, range 21; running thence west 66 poles and 18 links to the point of true beginning, being 16.5 acres, more or less.

Sec. 3. The cost of any surveys necessary as an incident of the conveyance authorized herein shall be borne by the State of Missouri.

With the following committee amendments:

Page 1, line 3, change "General Services Administrator" to read "Administrator of General Services," thus conforming to the statutory title.

Page 1, line 9, strike the language beginning "but subject to \* \* \*", and continuing through page 2, line 2. Substitute therefor the following: "upon such terms and conditions as the Administrator determines to be necessary to properly protect the interest of the United States: *Provided, however*, That such deed of conveyance by express terms shall—

"a. reserve to the United States all mineral rights including gas and oil,

"b. reserve to the United States right of exclusive use without charge therefor of such property together with any improvements thereon during any period of national emergency.

to specify that said property shall be used for the training of the National Guard or for other military purposes, and in the event of nonuse for such purpose within a reasonable time as determined by the Secretary of Defense or of discontinuance of use for such purpose, shall, in its then existing condition together with any improvements thereon, at the option of the United States as determined and exercised by the Secretary of Defense, revert to the United States."

The committee amendments were agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### PECWAN UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Clerk called the bill (H. R. 727) to authorize the conveyance of certain land to the Pecwan Union School District for use as the site of a school.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

*Be it enacted, etc.*, That, in order to provide a site for a school, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized and directed to convey to the Pecwan Union School District of the State of California all of the right, title, and interest (other than mineral rights) of the United States and of the Hoopa Indian Tribe in and to that tract of land containing 15 acres and more particularly described as follows:

The southeast quarter northeast quarter southeast quarter southeast quarter and northeast quarter southeast quarter southeast quarter southeast quarter, section 7, containing five acres, and the south half northwest quarter southwest quarter southwest quarter and the north half southwest quarter southwest quarter southwest quarter, section 8, containing ten acres, township 11 north, range 3 east, Humboldt meridian, California.

With the following committee amendment:

Page 1, line 7, strike the words "Hoopa Indian Tribe," and insert in lieu thereof the words "Indians who have an interest therin."

The committee amendment was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### PUBLIC RECREATION FACILITIES IN ALASKA

The Clerk called the bill (H. R. 4047) relating to the establishment of public recreation facilities in Alaska, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

*Be it enacted, etc.*, That the Secretary of the Interior, as an aid in the settlement and development of the Territory of Alaska, for a period of 5 years after the approval of this act, is authorized to construct campgrounds and parking areas, including necessary access roads thereto, and other public recreation-area facilities in Alaska and to maintain them pending their transfer to appropriate Territorial agencies and communities: *Provided*, That no lodges, hotels, or other structures providing overnight accommodations for the public shall be constructed pursuant to this act. Such public recreation facilities may be constructed upon lands under the

Secretary's administrative jurisdiction that are not needed for other public purposes. The Secretary is authorized to transfer, upon such terms and conditions as he may consider to be in the public interest, to appropriate Territorial agencies and communities for operation and maintenance such of the aforesaid public facilities and land relating thereto as he shall deem in the public interest.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### ALASKA PUBLIC LANDS

The Clerk called the bill (H. R. 4096) to provide for the disposal of public lands within highway, telephone, and pipeline withdrawals in Alaska, subject to appropriate easements, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

*Be it enacted, etc.*, That upon revocation of a withdrawal for highways, telephone lines, or pipelines, in Alaska, the lands involved shall be subject to disposal only under laws specified by the Secretary of the Interior, subject to easements as established by the Secretary. Notwithstanding any statutory limitation on the area which may be included in an unpatented claim or entry, the Secretary may permit the amendment of the land description of a claim or entry on adjoining lands to include the restored lands.

SEC. 2. The Secretary may sell such restored lands for not less than their appraised value, giving an appropriate preference right to the holders of adjoining claims or entries and to owners of adjoining private lands.

SEC. 3. Public lands in Alaska within an easement hereunder established by the Secretary of the Interior may not be utilized or occupied without the permission of the Secretary, or an officer or agency designated by him. If the lands crossed by an easement established under this act are under the jurisdiction of a Federal department or agency other than the Department of the Interior, or of a State, Territory, or other Government subdivision or agency, such permission may be granted only with the consent of such department, agency, or other governmental unit.

SEC. 4. Nothing in this act shall affect adversely any valid existing rights.

With the following committee amendment:

Page 2, line 6, after the period on line 6, insert a new sentence as follows: "If such lands are under the jurisdiction of a Federal department or agency other than the Department of the Interior, any sale thereof shall be made only with the consent of such department or agency."

The committee amendment was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### ST. CROIX, V. I.

The Clerk called the bill (S. 2097) to authorize the transfer to the Department of Agriculture, for agricultural purposes, of certain real property in St. Croix, V. I.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

*Be it enacted, etc.*, That the Virgin Islands Corporation is authorized and directed to transfer and convey to the United States of America upon request of the Secretary of Agriculture, without cost, the real property comprising 60 acres more or less, together with the buildings and improvements thereon, occupied and in use by the Department of Agriculture, which property is adjacent to the southwest corner of the intersection of Centerline Road and Airport Road on the Island of St. Croix, Virgin Islands: *Provided*, Upon the transfer and conveyance of such property by the Virgin Islands Corporation to the United States, the interest-bearing investment of the United States in the Corporation shall be reduced by the net book value of such property.

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### FALL RIVER RESERVOIR, KANS.

The Clerk called the bill (H. R. 4729) to designate the lake created by the Fall River Reservoir, in the State of Kansas, as Lake Meyer.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

*Be it enacted, etc.*, That the lake created by the Fall River Dam, on the Fall River, a tributary of Verdigris River, near Fall River, Kans., shall be known and designated as Lake Meyer. Any law, regulation, document, or record of the United States in which such lake is referred to under any other name or designation shall be held to refer to such lake as Lake Meyer.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### DEMOPOLIS LOCK AND DAM, ALABAMA

The Clerk called the bill (H. R. 3235) to provide for adjustments in the lands or interests in land heretofore acquired for the Demopolis lock and dam, Alabama, by the reconveyance of certain lands or interests therein to the former owners thereof.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

*Be it enacted, etc.*, That (a) in order to provide for adjustments in the lands or interests in land heretofore acquired for the Demopolis lock and dam project to conform such acquisition to a lesser estate in lands now being acquired to complete the real-estate requirement of the project, the Secretary of the Army is authorized to reconvey any such land or interests in land heretofore acquired to the former owners of such land whenever (1) he shall determine that such land or interest is not required for public purposes, and (2) he shall have received an application for reconveyance as hereinafter provided.

(b) The Secretary shall give notice, in such manner (including publication) as he shall by regulation prescribe, to the former owner of such land or interest, and any such sale of any such land or interest shall be made only after the Secretary has received an application for the reconveyance of such land or interest from such former owner, in such form as he shall by regulation prescribe. Such application shall be made within a period of 90 days following the date of issuance of such notice, but on good cause the Secretary may waive this requirement.





Public Law 186 - 84th Congress  
Chapter 421 - 1st Session  
S. 2097

AN ACT

All 69 Stat. 391.

To authorize the transfer to the Department of Agriculture, for agricultural purposes, of certain real property in Saint Croix, Virgin Islands.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Virgin Islands Corporation is authorized and directed to transfer and convey to the United States of America upon request of the Secretary of Agriculture, without cost, the real property comprising sixty acres more or less, together with the buildings and improvements thereon, occupied and in use by the Department of Agriculture, which property is adjacent to the southwest corner of the intersection of Centerline Road and Airport Road on the Island of St. Croix, Virgin Islands: Provided, Upon the transfer and conveyance of such property by the Virgin Islands Corporation to the United States, the interest-bearing investment of the United States in the Corporation shall be reduced by the net book value of such property.*

Saint Croix,  
V. I.  
Property trans-  
fer to U. S.

Approved July 28, 1955.

